(e) The issues referred to the tribunal are as under :—

Whether the Indian Flights Engineers' Association is justified in demanding :

(1) a second flight engineer on long-haul flights exceeding 9 hours that are operated with an additional commander ;

(2) compensation based on their claim for integration of cockpit crew of Air India Boeing 747 and Airbus 300 aircrafts; and

(3) Provision of full wing on their uniform instead of half wing as at present.

(f) The flight engineers have resumed work as the strike was called off on 23rd April, 1993 after conclusion of a settlement with the management. It is the endeavour of the management of Air India to prevent strikes and to arrive at amicable solution to outstanding problems through bilateral and trilateral negotiations/discussions.

Private operators' Collaboration with International Airlines

814. SHRI MD. SALIM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether in its over enthusiasm for economic liberalisation, the Gulf Air and other International carriers are being allowed equity participation with private operators at the cost of national airlines ;

(b) if so, the precise details of the approved tie up alongwith the adverse effect on country's Airlines ;

(c) whether Government are aware that International carriers are not permitted to fly in domestic sector even in advanced countries like USA, UK, France as also in SAARC countries ; and

(d) if so, the reasons for resorting to suicidal policy leading to drainage of large sums of foreign exchange out of India from the share of National carriers ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) A proposal for Foreign equity participation in Air Taxi Scheme has been received. No decision has been taken on this proposal. Government will take into consideration all relevant factors while taking a decision.

Advantage taken by the Private Air Taxi Operators

815. SHRI MD. SALIM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names alongwith the salient features of the private enterpreneurs who have taken advantage of the Open Sky Policy in the country, so far;

(b) the number of domestic flights each one of them is operationing daily, sectorwise, and the facilities like counters and space, etc. made available to each one of them by the airport authorities at various stations ;

(c) what is the extent upto which these facilities compare in area space and other logistic arrangements with the national carriers as also the time bound plans to give them more facilities ; and

(d) the number of representations received from each one of them with comments ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Payment of Employers Contribution of Provident Fund

816. SHRI M. A. BABY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND